

Subject: Fwd: Grand Opening: Kid City's New Location in Central City West. Come and see!

From: Anne Hawthorne

Date: 1/29/18, 7:37 PM

To: estephens@meridiancustompublishing.com, Darryl Holter <dholter@felixchevy.com>, Robert Buente <bbuente@1010dev.org>, "Zardeneta, Lizeth" <Lizeth.Zardeneta@asm.ca.gov>, Alex Ochoa <aochoa@felixchevy.com>, Kevin Corbett <corbettkp@gmail.com>, Stewart Kwoh <skwoh@advancingjustice-la.org>, Wallis Locke <wallis@southpark.la>

CC: Ben Garcia <bengarcia@kidcityhopeplace.org>, Alma Catalan <almacatalan@kidcityhopeplace.org>, Laura Cuellar <lauracuellar@kidcityhopeplace.org>

Dear friends,

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the new Kid City center at JW for our Grand Opening this Wednesday. Parking is very difficult in this neighborhood. Please let me know if you plan to drive, and we will try to find spaces for you.

The new Kid City program is located in the James Wood apartments, at 1328 James Wood Blvd. The event is planned from 5 to 7:30, and a short program will start around 5:15.

The invitation follows, and a flyer is attached. Please bring along anyone else who might like to see the beautiful space that Ben has created, with help from Felix Chevrolet, 1010 Development Corp., and an anonymous donor of furniture.

Thank you again for planning to come! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you all for coming, and thank you for your support!

Anne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ben Garcia** <bengarcia@kidcityhopeplace.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 29, 2018 at 7:26 PM

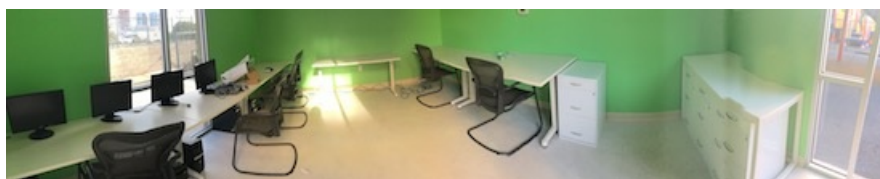
Subject: Grand Opening: Kid City's New Location in Central City West. Come and see!

To: Anne Hawthorne <annehawthorne@urbanfoundation.org>



Dear Anne --

Please join us this Wednesday, January 31, to celebrate the grand opening of a second Kid City location in Central City West. Festivities will begin at 5, with a ribbon-cutting and short program at 5:15. There will be cake! Read on for the details and the full story of how Kid City JW and the Hub came to be.



Location: Kid City at JW; [1328 James Wood Blvd](#). **Note:** Parking is difficult in this area. We suggest public transportation, walking, or a ride-service!

Wednesday, January 31, 5-7:30 pm; program at 5:15

Special thanks to our sponsoring donors! Felix Chevrolet for the computers, and 1010 Development Corporation for the space! And to Alma Sanchez, who piloted the program early in 2017.

I'm looking forward to welcoming you to JW!



Kid City has been with me for a large part of my life. I was a sophomore in high school when I first was introduced to Kid City. Ironically, after my first visit I thought I would only come by once or twice to get some homework done and have a snack. However, something was different about Kid City and I found myself coming up with any excuse to come by. It seemed different from any program I had seen before. What made it unique was the way everyone was willing to participate in activities — even the dreaded clean up at the end of the day. This real sense of community was something I had always wanted and it inspired me to contribute within my own communities and social circles.

I tried to carry that sense of community building with me when I was accepted to Cal State University Northridge, something I accomplished with the encouragement of the staff and other students at Kid City. Over my time at the university I made it my mission to become as involved as I could, and to experience all that the school and its organizations had to offer. Now that I have graduated with my Bachelors degree in political science from Cal State Northridge I am proud to say that I have joined the staff at Kid City.

My role is to coordinate an entirely new Kid City program, about a mile from our first location. With all that I have learned from school and from my peers I hope to create a new community with the same spirit and heart of the Kid City program that helped me get my start in life.

Hope to see you Wednesday!

Ben Garcia

<http://www.urbanfoundation.org/>



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